

# STATE SENATOR . MICHAEL PRUSI . 38TH DISTRICT

# Prusi Press Release

P. O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-7840 • Fax: 517-373-3932  
E-mail: [senmprusi@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senmprusi@senate.michigan.gov) • [www.senate.state.mi.us/dem/SD38](http://www.senate.state.mi.us/dem/SD38)



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**June 27, 2005**

**Contact: Senator Mike Prusi**  
**Phone: 517-373-7840**  
**Toll Free: 866-305-2038**

## **PRUSI LEGISLATION SENT TO GOVERNOR**

*Improves higher education infrastructure, strengthens workforce, and creates jobs*

**(Lansing)**—Legislation introduced by Senator Mike Prusi (D-Ishpeming) allowing institutions of higher education to seek bonds for capitol maintenance is on its way to Governor Granholm's desk. Senator Prusi's legislation is designed to spur immediate job creation through various construction and improvement projects, while assisting colleges and universities in preparing for the area's increasing demand for highly skilled labor.

"This legislation will provide opportunities for our colleges and universities to maintain and renovate existing facilities, making them safer and more efficient for students and faculty" said Sen. Prusi. "The immediate impact will bring millions of dollars and thousands of construction jobs to Michigan communities"

Senate Bill 412 will add capitol maintenance projects to the lists of allowable projects undertaken by the State Building Authority (SBA). Currently, the SBA is only allowed to improve existing facilities through restoration or renovation. Sen. Prusi's legislation will allow for improvements such as roof repair, safety and accessibility improvements, and technological infrastructure upgrades. These improvements will provide several job opportunities and make Michigan more attractive to potential employers.

"Senate Bill 214 is a step towards keeping Michigan competitive in today's global economy," said Sen. Prusi. "Continued investments in higher education are vital to strengthening our local communities and spurring job growth."

###

*Mike Prusi serves as Democratic Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee. He represents the 38<sup>th</sup> Senate District, which includes 13 of the 15 Upper Peninsula counties.*